

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1 and 85 as indicated in the following list of pending claims:

PENDING CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A tissue removing device for accessing and collecting a tissue specimen from a target site within a patient, comprising:
 - a. an elongated probe member which has a longitudinal axis, which has a proximal end configured to be secured to a drive, which has an inner lumen extending therein, which has a tissue penetrating distal tip and which has an aperture proximal to the tissue penetrating distal tip, said aperture being configured to receive tissue from the target site and being defined in part by a pair of opposed longitudinally oriented tissue cutting edges; and
 - b. an elongated tissue cutting member which is disposed within the elongated probe member, which has distal and proximal tubular portions, said distal portion having
 - i. a beveled distal tip with an outer tissue cutting edge that defines a tissue receiving opening, said distal [[tip]] portion being flared outwardly in a distal direction to ensure that the outer tissue cutting edge of the tissue cutting member engages the pair of tissue cutting edges of the elongated probe member, said outer tissue cutting edge lying within a surface that is inclined at an angle of less than 75° with respect to the longitudinal tissue cutting edges of the

elongated probe member and having leading and trailing portions,

- ii. an inner lumen extending therein and in fluid communication with the tissue receiving opening, and
- iii. a single longitudinally oriented slot in a wall of the distal tubular portion of the tissue cutting member that opens to the trailing portion of the tissue receiving opening in the distal tip, and

said proximal portion being configured to be operably connected to at least one drive unit to move the tissue cutting member to cut a tissue specimen from tissue extending into the tissue receiving aperture of the elongated probe member by at least one outer tissue cutting edge of the tissue cutting member.

2-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The biopsy device of claim 1 wherein the inner lumen of the tissue cutting member is configured to access a vacuum source to transport a tissue specimen through the inner lumen thereof to a tissue collector in fluid communication with the inner lumen.

8. (Previously Presented) The biopsy device of claim 1, wherein the tissue cutting member is configured for oscillating movement about the longitudinal axis.

9. (Original) The biopsy device of claim 8, wherein the tissue cutting member is also configured for reciprocating longitudinal movement.

10. (Original) The biopsy device of claim 9, wherein the tissue cutting member is configured for reciprocating longitudinal movement of between about 0.01

inch and about 0.2 inch (0.25-5.1 mm).

11-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The biopsy device of claim 1, wherein the tissue cutting member is configured for longitudinal movement along the longitudinal axis.

16. (Previously Presented) The biopsy device of claim 15, wherein the tissue cutting member is also configured for oscillating movement.

17-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) The biopsy device of claim 1 wherein the tissue cutting edge of the tissue cutting member has a tissue cutting angle over a substantial part of the length of the edge of the tissue cutting member.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The biopsy device of claim 1 wherein the opposed longitudinally oriented tissue cutting edges are parallel.

22-76. (Cancelled)

77. (Previously Presented) The tissue removing device of claim 1 wherein the distal tubular portion of the tissue cutting member has at least a second opening in a wall thereof.

78. (Previously Presented) The tissue removing device of claim 77 wherein the second opening in the wall of the distal tubular portion is adjacent to the longitudinally oriented slot in the wall.

79. (Previously Presented) The tissue removing device of claim 77 wherein the second opening opens to the longitudinally oriented slot.

80. (Previously Presented) The tissue removing device of claim 77 wherein the distal tubular portion has a third opening in a wall thereof on a side of the distal tubular member opposite to the second opening.

81. (Previously Presented) The tissue removing device of claim 80 wherein the third opening in the wall of the distal tubular portion is adjacent to the longitudinally oriented slot in the wall.

82. (Previously Presented) The tissue removing device of claim 81 wherein the third opening opens to the longitudinally oriented slot.

83. (Previously Presented) The tissue removing device of claim 1 wherein the distal tissue cutting tip has opposed tissue cutting edge portions that engage the opposed longitudinally oriented tissue cutting edges of the elongated probe member.

84. (Previously Presented) The tissue removing device of claim 8 wherein the elongated tissue cutting member is configured for oscillating movement about the longitudinal axis and longitudinal movement within the elongated tubular member along the longitudinal axis.

85. (Currently Amended) An elongated tissue cutting member configured for slidable movement within an inner lumen of an outer tubular member of a tissue biopsy device, said outer tubular member having a tissue receiving aperture in a wall thereof defined in part by a pair of opposed longitudinally oriented tissue cutting edges, the elongated tissue cutting member having an elongated shaft with a longitudinal axis, said shaft comprising:

an elongated shaft which has a longitudinal axis, which has a flared distal tubular portion that flares outwardly in a distal direction with a beveled distal tip having a tissue receiving opening, an outer tissue cutting edge out the

tissue-receiving opening configured to engage the opposed longitudinally oriented tissue cutting edges of the outer tubular member at an angle less than 75° from the longitudinal axis, [[and]] the beveled distal tip having leading and trailing portions[[.]] which and the distal tubular portion having [[has]] a longitudinally oriented, distally expanding slot in the flared distal tubular portion, the slot having an enlarged distal end that opens to the tissue receiving opening in the beveled distal tip at the trailing portion of the outer tissue-cutting edge beveled distal tip, and
which has a proximal portion that is configured to be connected to at least one drive unit to move the tissue cutting member to sever from supporting tissue a tissue specimen tissue extending into the tissue receiving aperture of the outer tubular member.

86. (Cancelled)

87. (Previously Presented) The elongated tissue cutting member of claim 85 wherein the elongated shaft has an inner lumen in fluid communication with the opening configured to receive severed tissue.

88-89. (Cancelled)

90. (Previously Presented) The elongated tissue cutting member of claim 85 wherein the distal tubular portion has at least a second opening in a wall thereof.

91. (Previously Presented) The elongated tissue cutting member of claim 90 wherein the second opening in the wall of the distal tubular portion is adjacent to the longitudinally oriented slot in the wall.

92. (Previously Presented) The elongated tissue cutting member of claim 91 wherein the second opening opens to the longitudinally oriented slot.

93. (Previously Presented) The elongated tissue cutting member of claim
90 wherein the distal tubular portion has a third opening in a wall thereof on a side of
the distal tubular member opposite to the second opening.

94. (Previously Presented) The elongated tissue cutting member of claim
93 wherein the third opening in the wall of the distal tubular portion is adjacent to the
longitudinally oriented slot in the wall.

95. (Previously Presented) The elongated tissue cutting member of claim
94 wherein the third opening opens to the longitudinally oriented slot.

96-100. (Cancelled)